

Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

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R 091800Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO USDAO MONROVIA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5269

DIA

USDAO DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 0568

FOR CAPTAIN JAMES F. CRUMMER, DATT, FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA PFOR MOPS PINR AEMR MR

SUBJECT: USDAO MONROVIA SUPPORT FOR EMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT AND DATT

1. WITH HIGHLY-SUCCESSFUL WEEK OF TRAVEL AROUND MAURITANIA IN REGIONAL DEFENSE ATTACHE C-12 STILL FRESH IN MIND, I SHOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION TO YOU AND YOUR PERSON-
ABLE CREW FOR A JOB WELL DONE, AND TO THE DECISION MAKERS IN WASHINGTON WHO MADE THIS PRODUCTIVE TOUR OF MAURITANIA POSSIBLE THROUGH ASSIGNMENT AND SUPPORT AIRCRAFT WHICH ALL DATTS AND DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN WEST AFRICA CAN USE TO ADVANCE THEIR PROGRAM GOALS. ENORMOUS DISTANCES AND ALMOST TOTAL ABSENCE OF ROADS IN MAURITANIA COMBINE TO MAKE TRAIL BY LAND PROBABLY VERY COSTLY IN TERMS OF TIME. THANKS TO DATT REGIONAL AIRCRAFT, I WAS ABLE TO MAKE IMPORTANT REPRESENTATIONAL VISITS TO SOUTHEAST AND TO MID-NORTH FOR FIRST TIME SINCE MY ARRIVAL IN MAURITANIA. DCM WAS ABLE TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONAL VISIT TO OASIS IN CENTRAL DESERT AND AT SAME TIME CHECK OUT PEACE CORPS AND SELF-HELP PROJECTS THERE. IT WAS QUITE CLEAR FROM COMMENTS OF MAURITANIAN OFFICIALS, EXPATRIATE TECHNICIANS, AND ORDINARY CITIZENS THAT REPRESENTATIONAL IMPACT OF THESE VISITS WAS GREATLY ENHANCED BY SLEEK USG AIRCRAFT. AVAILABILITY OF AIRCRAFT PERMITTED INSPECTION AND PHOTOGRAPHY OF VARIETY OF INFRASTRUCTURE

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AND OTHER INSTALLATIONS (E.G. AIRSTRIPS) IN COURSE

OF REPRESENTATIONAL VISITS THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN IN ANY OTHER FASHION. PLANE AND CREW ALSO FACILITATED FOLLOW-UP VISITS BY DCM AND DATT TO CIVIL AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN NOUADHIBOU. FINALLY, OPERATIONS OUT OF NOUAKCHOTT AIRPORT PROVIDED SERIES OF OPPORTUNITIES TO OBTAIN (HAND-HELD) PHOTOGRAPHY OF RAPIDLY CHANGING AND EXPANDING CITY. NONE OF OBSOLETE MAPS NOW AVAILABLE OF CITY AND ENVIRONS SHOW NEWLY-BUILT ROAD NETWORK, ESPECIALLY PAVED ROADS TO WHARF AND TO BEACHES NORTH OF CITY. WHILE NOT OF MAPPING QUALITY, THIS PHOTOGRAPHY WILL SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCE COMPLETENESS AND QUALITY OF STATE AND DEFENSE E & E (EMERGENCY AND EVACUATION) PLANNING. (HOPEFULLY WE'LL BE ABLE TO GET MAPPING QUALITY PHOTOGRAPHY ON YOUR NEXT TRIP.)

2. THANKS FOR YOUR HELP. GOOD LUCK, AND COME BACK SOON.HANDYSIDE

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